



To eliminate displacement of nasoscope from trolley during transportation from ward 55A to other departments

Background

Nasoscope is a thin tube-like instrument used to examine the inside of the nose. A nasoscope has a light and Lens for viewing. It is very fragile and needs to be handled with care. Ward 55A is the Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) ward that has high nasoscope usage; as well as referral to ENT from peripheral wards within SGH. Doctor needs to push the nasoscope trolley around about 5-10 times per day to perform the nasoscope when seeing patients who require nose examination.

Aims

- 100% elimination of nasoscope displacement from trolley during transportation
- Reduce the cost of repair of nasoscope

Methods

Pre-Implementation:

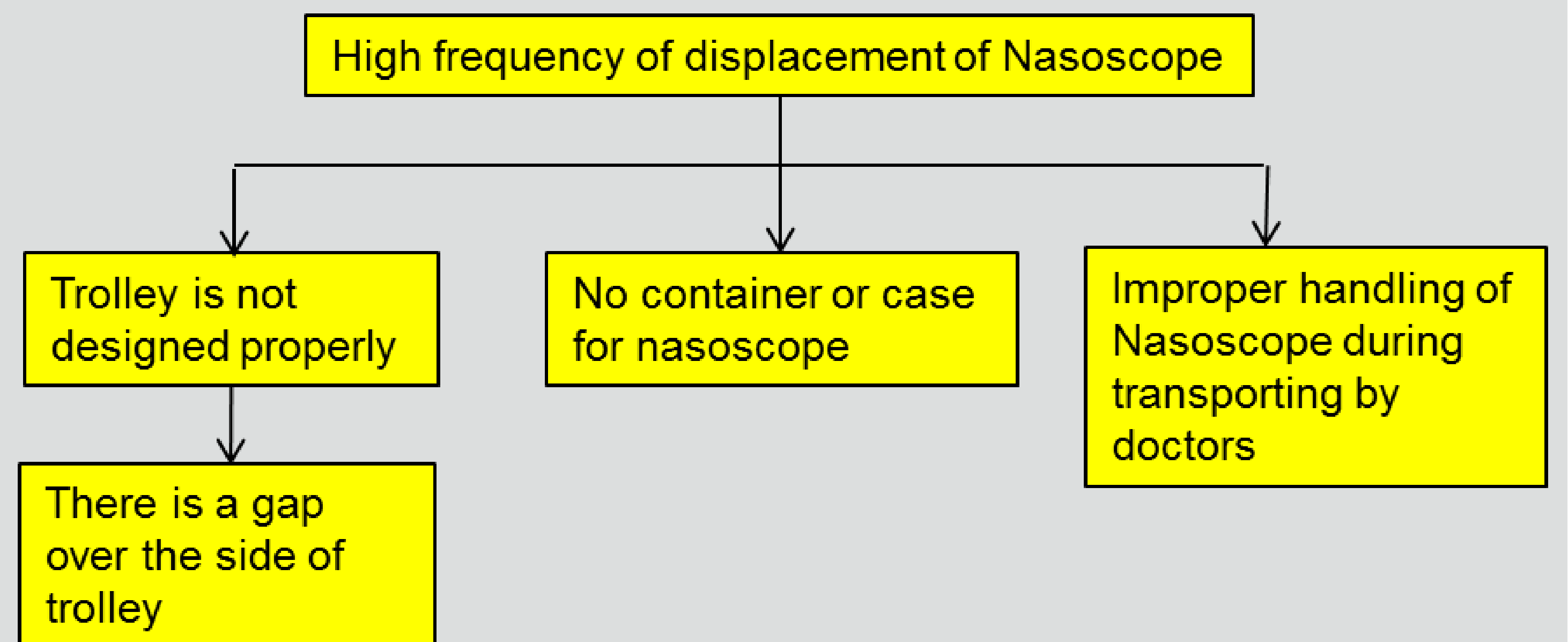
The nasoscope is placed on a trolley for transportation, and the tip often slips out from the side of the trolley during transportation (Fig. 1). When the tip slips out from the trolley, there is a risk for contamination and damage to the nasoscope.

1. Contaminated Scope would require additional cleaning. Cleaning process will take about 15 mins which can cause delay in treatment. Unnecessary consumable items were used.
2. There were 2 incidents of severe damage to the nasoscope in the past:
 - a. One scope was sent to USA for 10 months for parts replacement which cost \$5000.
 - b. Another scope was damaged beyond economical repair. A new piece was purchased for about \$10000~\$13000.



Fig. 1 Pre-Implementation

Analysis



Post-Implementation:

The new implementation was modified the trolley by sealing up three sides of the trolley to prevent the nasoscope from slipping out. (fig 2).

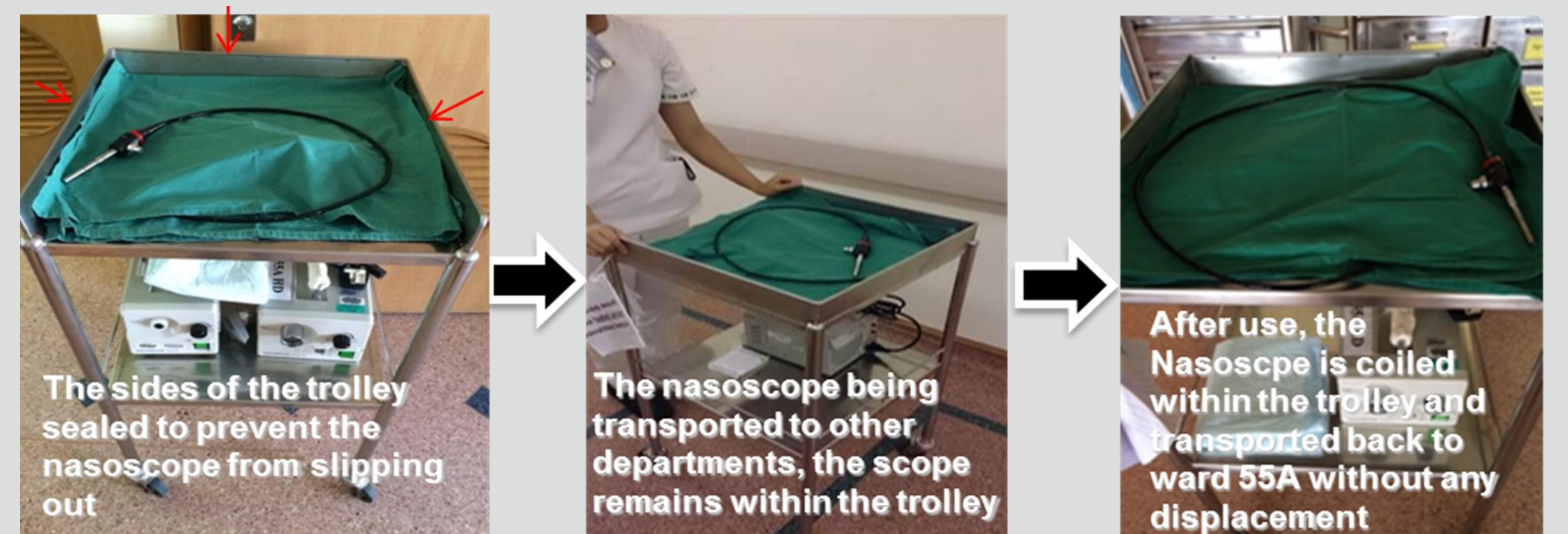


Fig. 2 Modified Trolley

Results

With the new implementation, our team achieved the following results:

- 100% elimination of nasoscope slipping out of the trolley
- Zero cost spent on nasoscope repair
- Prompt service provided, hence increase patient satisfaction

Conclusion

The trolley was modified to better facilitate the transportation of the nasoscope. This helped to achieve 100% elimination of the nasoscope slipping out of the trolley. Patients received prompt services as additional cleaning was not required.